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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Atty Dkt. 2551-126

C# M#

MAERTENS, et al.

Serial No. 09/899,046

Filed: July 6, 2001

Date: July 6, 2004

Title:

NEW SEQUENCE OF HEPATITIS C VIRUS GENOTYPES AND THEIR USE AS

THERAPEUTIC AND DIAGNOSTIC AGENTS

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

RESPONSE/AMENDMENT/LETTER

This is a response/amendment/letter in the above-identified application and includes an attachment which is hereby incorporated by reference and the signature below serves as the signature to the attachment in the absence of any other signature thereon.

☐ Correspondence Address Indication Form Attached. Fees are attached as calculated below: minus highest number Total effective claims after amendment \$ 18.00 \$ 0.00 previously paid for 20 (at least 20) =0 Х minus highest number Independent claims after amendment 0.00 (at least 3) =\$ 86.00 \$ previously paid for 3 O Х If proper multiple dependent claims now added for first time, add \$290.00 (ignore improper) 0.00 Petition is hereby made to extend the current due date so as to cover the filing date of this paper and attachment(s) (\$110.00/1 month; \$420.00/2 months; \$950.00/3 months) \$ 0.00 \$ 0.00 Terminal disclaimer enclosed, add \$ 110.00 First/second submission after Final Rejection pursuant to 37 CFR 1.129(a) (\$770.00) \$ 0.00 ☐ Please enter the previously unentered . filed ☐ Submission attached 0.00 Subtotal If "small entity," then enter half (1/2) of subtotal and subtract -\$ 0.00 ☐ Applicant claims "small entity" status. Statement filed herewith Rule 56 Information Disclosure Statement Filing Fee (\$180.00) \$ 0.00 \$ 0.00 Assignment Recording Fee (\$40.00) 0.00 Other:

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any <u>deficiency</u>, or credit any overpayment, in the fee(s) filed, or asserted to be filed, or which should have been filed herewith (or with any paper hereafter filed in this application by this firm) to our Account No. 14-1140. A duplicate copy of this sheet is attached.

1100 North Glebe Road, 8th Floor Arlington, Virginia 22201-4714 Telephone: (703) 816-4000 Facsimile: (703) 816-4100 BJS:pp NIXON & VANDERHYE P.C.

By Atty: B. J. Sadoff, Reg. No. 36,663

TOTAL FEE ENCLOSED

Signature:

0.00

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of

MAERTENS, et al.

Atty. Ref.: 2551-126; Confirmation No. 7316

Appl. No. 09/899,046

TC/A.U. 1648

Filed: July 6, 2001

Examiner: BROWN, Timothy M.

For: NEW SEQUENCE OF HEPATITIS C VIRUS GENOTYPES AND THEIR USE AS

THERAPEUTIC AND DIAGNOSTIC AGENTS

July 6, 2004

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

RESPONSE

Responsive to the Office Action dated June 3, 2004, the applicants elect, with traverse, the subject matter of the Examiner's Group I for further prosecution in the above. Moreover, the applicants elect, presumably for purposes of initial search, the sequence of SEQ ID NO:20, in response to the Examiner's requirement for species election on pages 3 and 4 of the Office Action dated June 3, 2004. All of the claims of the elected Group are believed to read on the elected species.

Reconsideration and withdrawal of the restriction requirement are requested as search of all the claimed subject matter is not believed to place an undue burden on the Examiner.

An early and favorable Action on the merits of the claimed invention is requested.

MAERTENS, et al. Appl. No. 09/899,046 July 6, 2004

The Examiner is requested to advise the undersigned if anything further is required in response to the Office Action of June 3, 2004.

Respectfully submitted,

NIXON & VANDERHYE P.C.

By:

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